GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1653
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Monitoring in FCI
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a regular monitoring mechanism in the Food Corporation of India;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether monitoring has been done through the said mechanism in the godowns where foodgrains was reported to be spoiled during the last three years;
(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
(e) the reasons for damage to foodgrains despite the availability of adequate storage facility?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)
(a)&(b): Yes Madam. There is a well established monitoring mechanism in Food Corporation of India (FCI) to check the quality of central pool foodgrains at the time of procurement, storage and issue.
Before the commencement of Rabi and Kharif procurement seasons, uniform specifications of Rabi and Kharif foodgrains respectively are formulated by the Government. FCI ensures procurement of foodgrains in the mandies and at depots strictly in accordance with quality specifications.
â€¦2/-
â€¦2â€¦
In order to ensure acceptance of foodgrains conforming to laid down specifications only, checks/super checks are conducted at various levels in FCI as under:
i. All the stocks are checked by Technical Assistants (TAs) by following a sampling procedure.
ii. In case of rice, 25% of the consignments accepted by TAs
are checked by Managers Quality Control (QC) on day to day basis.
iii. Assistant General Managers (QC) test-check 10% of rice stocks accepted by TAs on a fortnightly basis.
iv. 2% rice stock accepted by TAs is checked by the Area
Manager on fortnightly basis.
v. Similarly, Deputy General Manager (QC) and General Manager of the Regional Office and General Manager(QC) & Deputy General Manager (QC) of FCI Zonal Offices also inspect depots to test-check the procured stocks.
In addition to the above, squads are deployed from FCI Hqrs, Zonal Offices & Regional Offices to ensure that stocks are procured strictly in accordance with uniform specifications.
The quality of foodgrains in storage is monitored by FCI at regular intervals by a system of check and super checks to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains during storage. These are as follows:-
(i) Fortnightly inspection of stock on 100% basis by Technical Assistants at depot level.
(ii) Monthly inspection by Manager(QC) at depot level.
(iii) Quarterly inspection by AGM(QC) at District level.
(iv) Super checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Headquarter squads.
Similarly, at the time of issue of foodgrains to States/UTs, there is a well defined procedure of joint inspection/sampling of the stocks by State Government authorities and FCI to ensure that only good quality foodgrains are issued under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes.
â€¦3/-
â€¦3â€¦
(c),(d)&(e): The monitoring mechanism as detailed above is followed in all FCI godowns. Procured foodgrains are stored by FCI in a scientific manner in covered godowns and in CAP (Cover & Plinth) storage. Scientific codes of practices for safe storage of foodgrains are followed during storage. Inspite of all precautions, some quantity of foodgrains may get damaged/ become non-issuable during storage due to various reasons such as storage pests' attack, leakages in godowns, procurement of poor quality stocks, exposure to rains, floods, negligence on the part of concerned persons in taking precautionary measures etc. In case of negligence of officers/officials, suitable disciplinary action against defaulters is invariably taken, wherever warranted.
Quantity of central pool foodgrains accrued as damaged/non-issuable in FCI godowns and action taken against officers/officials during last three years and current year is as under:
Year
Quantity accrued as damaged foodgrains (in lakh tons)
No. of cases against Officers/Officials found responsible for Down-gradation /Damage of stocks
2012-13
0.03
23
2013-14
0.25

53
2014-15
0.19
25
2015-16(upto Jan 2016)
0.03
19
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